and forecast of severe weather events including cyclones, cloud bursts and heavy rainfall. Forecasting earthquakes is still a subject of research globally and satellite data provides important inputs towards such studies.

Manned Lunar landing project

3711. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for a manned lunar landing project;

(b) if so, its aims, objectives and the cost;

(c) the time frame for such a project; and

(d) the funds alotted for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present for a manned lunar landing mission. However, the National Task Team set up to study a proposal for an unmanned orbiting spacecraft mission to moon has submitted its report. The proposal is to send an unmanned spacecraft to orbit the moon at a height of 100 km. The spacecraft will be launched using India's own launch vehicle. The mission is planned for the scientific objective of high-resolution remote sensing of the lunar surface in visible, near-infrared, low-energy X-ray and high-energy X-ray spectra.

(c) and (d) The time frame and funds allocations will be known only after the total review of the mission and the project report is finalized for the unmanned orbiting spacecraft mission.